

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 H-03 SS-20 NSC-07

PA-04 PRS-01 RSC-01 DRC-01 /061 W

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R 301246Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4197

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 13049

FOLLOWING TEL SENT NEW DELHI FROM CALCUTTA SEPT 30, 1974,
REPEATED TO YOU. QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CALCUTTA 2076

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : CASC PFOR IN

SUBJECT : HARCOS/FLETCHER - BAIL

1. CONSUL O'NEILL AND CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER (CMO) SAW HARCOS AND
FLETCHER
AT PRESIDENCY JAIL TODAY (SEPT 30).

2. CMO EXPLAINED THAT ONCE THEY LEFT THE PRISON, THE PRISONERS WOULD
NO LONGER BE PROVIDED NASAL FEEDINGS BY PRISON OFFICIALS AND THAT
PRIVATE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO PROVIDE
NASAL FEEDINGS, OR EVEN TO TAKE THEIR CASE IF THEY WERE ON A
HUNGER STRIKE. HARCOS AND FLETCHER'S REACTION WAS THAT THEY WOULD
NOT RPT NOT GO OUT ON BAIL UNTIL THEIR THIRD CONDITIONN
CONSULAR ACCESS TO THEIR TRIAL, WAS GRANTED. MEANWHILE, THEY
WOULD CONTINUE THE HUNGER STRIKE, ACCEPTING DAILY NASAL FEEDINGS AND
COMPLAN.

3. O'NEILL CARRIED OUT THE INSTRUCTIONS IN STATE 213983,
BUT HARCOS REACTED THAT "IF WE GO OFF THIS HUNGER STRIKE THE
INVESTIGATING OFFICER WOULD DELAY THE TRIAL AND WE WOULD BE
FORGOTTEN."

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4. CMO EMPHASIZED THE FACT THAT, SINCE THEY HAVE BEEN ON

NASAL FEEDING A CONSIDERABLE LENGTH OF TIME, AN EXTREMELY DANGEROUS
PROCEDURE WHICH BECOMES MORE DANGEROUS ALL THE TIME, CONTINUATION
OF EVEN THIS LIMITED HUNGER STRIKE COULD HAVE SERIOUS EFFECTS
ON THEIR PRESENT AND FUTURE HEALTH. O'NEILL REINFORCED THIS POINT
BUT THE PRISONERS WERE ADAMENT.

5. BOTH HARCOS AND FLETCHER APPEARED WEAK AND HARCOS YAWNED
FREQUENTLY DURING THE CONVERSATION.
PICKERING UNQUOTE
SCHNEIDER

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